



Sandringham Golf Links Course Improvements and Training Facility

**Information Paper
January 2018**

Background

- ⦿ The Sandringham Golf Links Course Project ('The Project') is a joint initiative between Golf Victoria, Golf Australia, PGA Australia and the Sandringham Golf Links Management with funding support from the Victorian Government.
- ⦿ The objectives of the project (in no specific order) are to:
 - Provide various improvements to Sandringham Golf Course in line with previously identified needs from community consultation.
 - Grow the participation in the sport and usage of the golf course particularly through engaging new markets such as young people and time-poor players.
 - Generate additional revenue to support the operations of the Course and ensure its financial viability into the future.
 - Provide high quality practice facilities for all players of all levels from social to the elite to develop their skills as well as for skilled players to have access to high performance training facilities.

Background

- ☉ Bayside Council received an overview and update on the Sandringham Golf Links Project at its meeting on 25 July 2017. At this meeting, Council endorsed the Project to commence stakeholder and community consultation.
- ☉ First round of stakeholder consultation was completed in 2017 with the clubs at the the course, local residents and Victorian Golf League.
- ☉ Lots of feedback and suggestions received.
- ☉ Feedback provided to the project team helped inform the preparation of Option A and Option B.

Design Update

- ⦿ Course architects (Ogilvy, Clayton, Cocking, Mead - OCCM)
 - Worked through a large number of options.
 - Undertaken a number of site walks.
 - GV measured course length at 5,587m (60m shorter than card)
- ⦿ Building architect
 - Working through siting of building to reflect park land setting.
 - Working through initial concepts / layouts.
 - Working with course architects re siting of the building.
- ⦿ In working through various course options came to realisation there are two options that maintain challenge of course:
 - 18 holes and maximise length (Concept A)
 - 18 holes with reduced length (Concept B)

18 holes maximise course length (Option A)



FAQ's

- ⦿ What benefit will there be to the golf clubs and the public?
 - An improved golf course.
 - Access to driving range, short game and high performance coaching tools and technology.
 - New building and amenities.
 - New café and proshop.
 - Clubs can book meeting room for their meetings.
 - There will be storage cupboards for clubs and display area for Honour Boards.

- ⦿ Who is the driving range for?
 - Driving range is a requirement for the golf bodies' high performance programs.
 - The range is available for public use (requirement of government funding).
 - Golf bodies' high performance programs the only group(s) with priority access.

FAQ's

- ⦿ What is wrong with the current course?
 - Minimal course improvements but fulfills an important role.
 - Condition of the course is very good, however very little done to improve the course in the past.
 - There are a number of examples of changes that have taken place over time that have impacted the course i.e. the big trees that smother the inside corner of the 9th hole.
 - Vegetation has been neglected and is in need of revival and regeneration. Reintroduction of indigenous heathland will transform both the environment and the look and feel of the course.

FAQ's

- ☼ Why build a course to encourage women, children and 'time poor' players?
 - Women and children have very low participation rates.
 - Top three drivers for golf participants are fun / enjoyment, social reasons and physical health or fitness (2017 Ausplay Survey).
 - Golf needs to focus on developing fun and social options for the game, followed by options to play a short game (2015 Golf Landscape Research).
 - There is a misconception amongst many golfers that 'difficult' golf is good golf and 'easy' golf is poor golf.
 - Melbourne sandbelt is full of truly world-class short holes – whether they are short par 3s or short par 4s. Some examples include

Short Par 3's (under 150m)	Short Par 4's (under 310m)
Kingston Heath 10th & 15th	Kingston Heath 3rd
Commonwealth 9th & 15th	Victoria 1st and 15th
Royal Melbourne West 7th & 13th	Royal Melbourne West 3rd & 10th
Royal Melbourne East 13th	Royal Melbourne East 1st & 15th
Peninsula South 17th	Peninsula South 7th and 12th
Victoria 14th	Woodlands 4th

- A short course does not make it either easy to play or dull and uninteresting (e.g. Healesville is ranked in Top 70 in Australia despite being just under 5,000m)

Course Design – Heathland Vegetation



Course Design – Strategic Par 4s



Course Design – Strategic Par 3s



Further Consultation

- ☉ Go to Bayside Council's 'Have Your Say' website <https://www.yoursay.bayside.vic.gov.au/sandringham-golf-links-project> where you can complete an on-line questionnaire.
- ☉ Drop into one of the three planned Information Sessions at the Sandringham Golf Links Café, where members of the Project Team will be available to speak to you about the Project. You can drop in at any time during the one and a half hour sessions.
- ☉ Information Sessions are as follows:
 - Wednesday 24 January 2018, 3.30pm – 5.00pm
 - Wednesday 24 January 2018, 6:30pm – 8:00pm.
 - Tuesday 30 January 2018, 6.30pm – 8.00pm
- ☉ The opportunity to provide feedback on the two course layout options will be open until 12 midday on 1 February 2018.